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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0722

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 000074

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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [CI](#)
SUBJECT: IRAQ POINTS DELIVERED

REF: STATE 3592

(U) Ambassador discussed at length reftel points with Ambassador Carlos Portales, the MFA's third-ranking official on January 12 (Post delivered the points as well to MFA as a non-paper January 11). During the conversation, Ambassador stressed that the President's proposed package of measures focused on both the military and economic objectives necessary to furthering progress and stability in Iraq. He also underscored that the USG expected the Iraqi government to take on immediate greater responsibility for security, reconstruction and reconciliation. Portales listened attentively, clearly took the demarche seriously, and expressed appreciation for the Ambassador's briefing.
KELLY